

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A transformed bone marrow-related cell introduced with a vector carrying a gene, wherein the cell is associated with the maintenance and/or repair of a tissue.

2. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 1, wherein the gene is a marker gene, or has a function of directly participating in the maintenance and/or repair of a tissue, or of assisting a function of the transformed bone marrow-related cell in maintaining and/or repairing a tissue.

3. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 2, wherein the gene with the function of directly participating in the maintenance and/or repair of a tissue, or of assisting a function of the transformed bone marrow-related cell in maintaining and/or repairing a tissue, encodes a protein or a peptide having an activity of controlling the differentiation or proliferation of a cell or of controlling a cellular function, wherein the protein or the peptide is selected from the group consisting of HGF, FGF, VEGF, PDGF, interleukin, GCSF, MCSF, SCF, IFN, Crx, and Otx2.

4. (Currently amended) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of ~~any one of~~

~~claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the vector is an adenoviral vector or a Sendai virus vector.

5. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 4, wherein the adenoviral vector carries an HGF gene.

6. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 4, wherein the Sendai virus vector carries an FGF2 gene.

7. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 4, wherein the Sendai virus vector carries an IFN gene.

8. (Currently amended) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of ~~any one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the bone marrow-related cell is a bone marrow cell or a bone marrow-derived cell.

9. (Currently amended) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of ~~any one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the tissue is a diseased tissue.

10. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 9, wherein the disease is a liver disease.

11. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 10, which reduces a level of a serum liver enzyme.

12. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 9, wherein the disease is a cancer.

13. (Original) The transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 12, wherein the cancer is a hepatic cancer.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A method for preparing a transformed bone marrow-related cell, comprising the step of using a vector carrying a gene to introduce the gene to a bone marrow-related cell taken from a mammal.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical agent for the maintenance and/or repair of a tissue, comprising the transformed bone marrow-related cell of ~~any one of~~

~~claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

18. (Currently amended) The agent of claim 17, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an ~~An agent for treating a liver disease, comprising the transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 10.~~

19. (Currently amended) ~~The agent for treating a liver disease~~ of claim 18, wherein the liver disease is a hepatopathy, hepatic insufficiency, cirrhosis, or hepatitis.

20. – 24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) A method for manufacturing an agent for treating a liver disease, comprising the step of preparing a composition comprising the transformed bone marrow-related cell of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

26. –31. (Canceled)

32. (New) A method of maintaining and/or repairing a tissue, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof transformed bone marrow-related cells introduced with a vector carrying a gene.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the tissue is a diseased tissue.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the disease is a liver disease.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the disease is a cancer.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the administration is a injection into a peripheral blood vessel of the subject.

37. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the gene is selected from the group consisting of HGF, FGF, FGF2, VEGF, PDGF, interleukin, GCSF, MCSF, SCF, IFN, Crx, and Otx2.

38 (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the vector is an adenoviral vector or a minus-strand RNA viral vector.